NCVEC 10/3/98

Subject : Comments to VEC Rules Committee on your proposed response to WT Docket #98-143.

#1 I think just a tad more compromise is the key to getting your proposal through. As you know approximately half of todays licensed hams are not willing to give up the code requirements! I agree with 95% of your proposed concept. The only compromise I feel is needed to make the bulk of your proposal work is to address the code requirement further. Meet the existing hams desire to keep the code requirement half way, with a code speed of 12 WPM for the Advanced ( if this class is kept ) and the Extra.
#2 I agree totally that the handicap waiver should be eliminated. Since the proposed 5wpm code test would yield a General Class license,the handicapped would not be unduly restricted. If they want Advanced or Extra privileges they should be required to take a 12 wpm test, since they would have to know at least 12wpm to use the additional spectrum gained by having a Advanced or Extra Class license.

Finally, I feel further compromise is needed! Part of the ARRL proposal isn't so bad.
Tech. - Same as current Tech.
General - 5wpm and element 3B.
Advanced - 5 or 12 wpm and element 4A
Extra - 12 wpm and element 4B
Keep existing names. No A,B,C,D etc:

Perhaps in two years, the anti - code elimination hams will be able to see the wisdom of the code free or 5 wpm group of hams and submit to their way of thinking. A show me and we will see type attitude. The FCC rules can always be written to phase out CW or have 5wpm by year 2001.

Jim, WB9LNU